

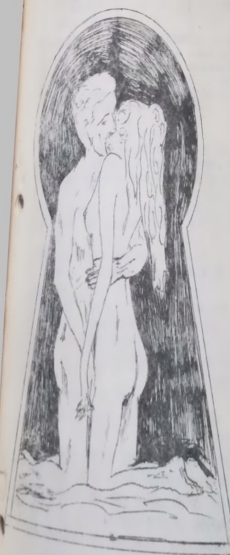
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SEX UNDER CAPITALISM

ALEX SHEPHERD

Alex Shepherd of Winnipeg, who joined the Party more than fifty years ago, died on March 21, two days before his 79th birthday, after a lengthy illness.

Over the years, Alex had been among the Party's most active members, having frequently held offices in the Winnipeg Local and the General Executive Committee. He fought the notorious "Conditions of Affiliation" (known also as the "21 points") of the early 1920s, which launched the Leninist aim to rule or wreck membership to Socialist principles. He supported the adoption of the Socialist Party of Great Britain Declaration of Principles in the early 1930s and helped found the "Western Socialist" in 1933, remaining as one of its editors until the second world war caused the journal to be moved to the United States. It was a practice of his to go walking in the evening, carrying an armful of Party leaflets to be dropped into mailboxes along the way.

In his earlier years Alex was also active in the trade union movement and was a member of the machinists' Local that triggered the Winnipeg general strike. He became a member of the strike committee, whose authority started and stopped activity in the area, earning for themselves the hatred of those whose exclusive right to issue orders had been for the moment usurped.

In later years Alex served regularly as a delegate from his union on the Trades and Labor Council where he was frequently referred to as the delegate from the Socialist Party of Canada, since he examined all issues only from the standpoint of their usefulness in pressing Party views.

The movement has lost a tower of strength.

Our sympathy goes to Paula Shepherd whose home has always been open to visiting Socialists and whose hospitality is known across the country and in other countries.
J.M.

FULCRUM

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SOCIALIST PARTY of Canada
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BILL BENNETT

Bill Bennett, former member and worker for the Party, died April 4, at the age of 35, after a prolonged illness. Born in Wiltshire, England, he was a member, or associated with the SPG, both the old and the present organization, for many years.

He participated in the Federal election in which the Party ran Com. Bill Pritchard as its candidate in 1921 in the Victoria area. He helped as a door to door canvasser. He was a regular attender at meeting until age compelled him to drop out. He made a substantial contribution to Victoria Local literature fund about four years ago.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA CONFERENCE

The 1970 Conference of the Socialist Party of Canada is to be held May 16, 17, 18 at the home of the General Secretary, Larry Tickner. It is to be hoped that as at past Conferences this one will generate renewed vigor for future efforts toward Socialism. It is regrettable that Alex Shepherd who attended the 1968 Conference will not be with us but during his time he cast a tall shadow for Socialism-- one that the rest of us would do well to attempt to emulate.

The Conference Agenda is listed on page 8. It is amendable on the opening session. Visitors are welcome and may take part in the discussions. However only members may vote.

SEX UNDER CAPITALISM

CAPITALISM DENIES NATURAL SEX TO MILLIONS, BUT SELLS SUBSTITUTES
FOR A PROFIT. WHAT ELSE?

According to some researchers, marketers and individuals of the John Q. pornography and voyeurism arise from two general, environmental causes. (1) Absence of natural sex expression, that is repression, and (2) the general frustrations or miseries of society. Benjamin Smith, writing in *The Nation*, (Sept. 8/69) says, "The kind of true sexual freedom that must evolve out of social change...is still light years away from any kind of reality."

Some examples from the press-

The owner of a pornographic bookstore in Toronto - "Everyone believes there is a freedom and a power to be readily achieved, but no one finds it. People instead find themselves powerless, with little control over their lives. The consequences are sometimes riots, white-collar crime and everything that is born of frustration. This feeling of powerlessness, of being dominated and exploited is called *anomie*. And that's what sells our books."

A Canon Butler, quoting a Dr. Pareis-

"...some of these people get gratification from reading obscene literature."

British publisher of the American Sex novel, "Last Exit to Brooklyn," - making a plea for the legalization of pornography so it can comfort lonely, sex starved people. "I get letters from people to tell me they are lonely, unhappy, too inhibited or too unattractive to have any kind of sexual contact with another person and that they find in very crude pornography an outlet and satisfaction for what they are missing."

Dear Anne Landers- "...I finally got anold of myself and tried to analyze my feelings. I slowly came to realize that it wasn't the man himself who attracted me, but the fact he was 'forbidden', and that compared with the dull, rather boring aspects of day to day living which most of us lead, the intrigue of such an affair seemed so exciting and irresistible. (I proved this to myself on another occasion when a 'forbidden' man suddenly became available and the 'magic' quickly disappeared.)"

From Sheffield, England- "Sock atmosphere- Symptoms of Strip Clubs." "...the loyal businessmen's main outlet for sexual repressions."

George Steiner, literary critic, lime. In movies and plays- "The totally explicit love scene, is an intrusion upon the imagination and a synthetic substitute for reality."

Benjamin Smith again- "Pop pornography, the bluest of blue chips --- ~~from~~ from the sale of pornographic but badly written novels. "The really astonishing thing common to all such material is its generally sex-negative attitude. The mirror they hold up reflects a middle-class America in which there is a great deal of sexual misery. Characteristically, the new sex vendors fail to provide the clues to

continued on page 4

Sex Under Capitalism (continued)

understanding the national sex hang-up."

Malcolm Muggeridge, former editor of *Punch*. "The U.S. is drenched, if not submerged in sex, and of course all other countries are in the process of adopting the American way of life. Marx had it that religion was the opium of the people. Sex is better."

Dr. Richard Seiden, behavioral science Professor, University of California, Berkeley, postulating sex therapy for potential suicides: "The pattern of withdrawal begins in early childhood and the distinguishing feature is the victim's social isolation." He said the young self-murderers date less and few have experienced sexual intercourse. Some psychiatrists quietly arrange sex as medicine.

The second annual "Sex for Millions" fair has opened in Denmark, presenting all aspects of pornography, including a night club where four couples will perform nightly, "for customers willing to pay the \$19.00 entry fee." It would more accurately be called "millions out of sex substitutes." The organizer of the show said he was simply trying to make money. "Paul Kijakuluf, 60, who says he has written 5,000 pornographic stories said, 'we're all in this for money...sex is a serious business, it's a big business.'"

Restrictions on natural sex expression dovetail all too well with restriction on all human expression today among the useful section of society, and with the mental conditioning imposed upon the majority by the owning class in society. Their view of the scene is that sexual freedom would interfere with the production of commodities for sale for profit. Everything has to be paid for. Including illegitimate children. The monogamous family unit, or compulsory monogamy, has been the cheapest, most efficient way of replacing the working class (which includes the so-called middle class) every generation. Idealized in the saying "The family is the backbone of the nation." Naturally this form of marriage has been extolled as the only form of "true love" in the mass media that they control, whether it is or not is beside their point. And the working class is their pot of gold; the source of their immense wealth. But it seems that they are gradually conceding the open use of substitutes, since ersatz sex seems to postpone complete mental breakdown for some, props the production machine and keeps the profits rolling in on the total national capital invested.

A lessening of natural sex and the growth of substitutes or perversions seems to be inevitable with the general isolation, -- alienation of individuals from each other that is inherent in a competitive, class dominated social organization. Where humans orbit the commodity instead of the product serving man. In this late and automated stage of capitalism, workers tend to be watchers rather than doers. Since they have become more of an appendage of the prison-like machines of their masters, as predicted by Marx and Engels 122 years ago, they derive less creative satisfaction from wage-slavery, they tend to seek more artificial replacements. If breathing could have been made a direct profit-making industry, it would have been made so, long ago. There is nothing new in industries being made out of social reforms that were needed to keep the system on its feet.

Sweden and Denmark may possibly be showing the way to the allegedly new sex permissiveness as yet another desperate method of propping up a retrograde social system. Pioneering another reform to help the working class to survive as shells of human beings, so they can stay warped around their boss's machines. This is an age of spectator sports. The ratio of those who watch hockey games compared to those

Sex Under Capitalism (continued)

who play them seems to get more lop-sided. And even this natural human activity does not escape the deforming propensities of the capitalist society. The profit-motive dominates big-time hockey, which in turn caters to the queer psychological needs of the gate. The violence in hockey performs the same therapeutic function as the grunts and groans that emanate from the professional tneapians in wrestling. These are among the places where "successful" workers who have "made it" go to get rid of their worst frustrations. Watching Wayne Maki break his stick over Ted Greene's head is a good replacement for the urge to punch his foreman in the nose; something the poor worker cannot do -- he needs his job. These sessions seem to replace the Sunday morning church service of 2 generations ago in placating the worker. So that he can face another week of being a non-entity at the office or factory.

In a world where money to fight mental breakdown takes a big chunk of loot out of the money bags of the international capitalist class, sex perversion, (where it contradicts the profits of the owners in general) also comes in for a share of attention. Maybe pornography for profit can do the same psychiatric service for the total national capital as professional sport does. As the label on a milk can used to say- "our milk comes from contented cows" The working class does not have to be contented, to function as the sole source of surplus values for the capitalist class. But their degree of misery must be kept above total collapse.

J. G.

BOOK REVIEW

THE POLITICS OF EXPERIENCE AND THE BIRD OF PARADISE by R.D. Laing.

A collection of essays on Laing's varied and even contradictory thoughts.

Although the introduction indicates no credentials for Laing other than doctor of medicine his practice and interests in the field of psychiatry and this is the approach in his book.

It is likely that many readers would not get past his opening pages. Laing bores his reader with an overlengthily diatribe on a rather easily acceptable premise that different people will receive different experiences from the same circumstance.

It is difficult to understand how a writer in the course of one book could adopt so many varying philosophies. Laing flips and flounders from idealism to metaphysics and finally goes through a kind of mental freak-out. (Laing has been experimenting with L.S.D. and mescaline.)

One should however not take the impression that there is no wheat amongst Laing's chaff. To the contrary and indeed in Laing's evaluation of the mental illness, schizophrenia, he somehow steps right into the Socialist camp -- "The 'cause' of 'schizophrenia' is to be found by the examination, not of the prospective diagnoses alone, but of the whole social context in which the psychiatric ceremonial is being conducted." (p.36). Laing supports the "double-blind" hypnosis originated by anthropologist Gregory Bateson in 1956. The "double-blind" is nothing other

Continued on page 6

Book Review (continued)

that what Socialists, not so prone to linguistic refinements, have been calling the contradictions of capitalism for over 100 years. In the "double-bind" hypothesis the individual is caught in a can't win situation, commonly referred to as "Bugged if he does and bugged if he doesn't." Anyone can think of at least a hundred of these situations arising in modern day capitalism -- the desire to quit a meaningless increasingly redundant job but fear of inability to find something new and a pressing need for the income from the present intolerable situation, and so on. Certain individuals caught in perhaps several of these "double-binds" become schizophrenic. Laing analyzes this as "a special strategy that a person invents in order to live in an unlivable situation". The victim may have trance-like symptoms or may go through a routine such as repeatedly making several steps forward, several steps backward or some such seemingly meaningless action. Laing contends that the victim, is merely acting out the irreconcilable conflict. It is notable that throughout the whole chapter Laing stresses the causation factor -- "We know that the biochemistry of the person is highly sensitive to social circumstance. That a checkmate situation occasions a biochemical response which, in turn, facilitates or inhibits certain types of experience and behaviour is plausible a priori." (P.95).

It is a hopeful sign that more psychiatrists are moving into the camp of materialist analysis and perhaps it is an appropriate time for the Socialist movement to put the psychiatrists on the couch. With the frustrations and "double-binds" that psychiatrists inevitably run into in attempting to help the increasingly numerous victims of capitalism's contradictions it is no surprise to Socialists that psychiatry is the occupation with the highest rate of suicide. If psychiatrists are really sincere about the problems of man then it is time they recognized the limitations of their present approach. Let Laing himself lay it on them -- "Socially, this work must now move to further understanding, not only of the internal disturbed and disturbing patterns of communication within families, of double-binding procedures,...but also to the meaning of all this within the larger context of the civic order of society -- that is, of the political order, of the ways persons exercise control and power over one another." (P. 101). Socialists would go further and lay it on the barrelhead to psychiatrists thus -- Perhaps in your daily occupation you are restricted to attempting to fit the victims within capitalism's production for sale contradictions but if you really want to remove the cause of the overwhelming majority of mental illness in some of the remaining time you will join the Socialist movement in an effort to bring about a wageless, moneyless, production motivated to human need of society and do it now.

Larry Pickner

Victoria Local

'PEOPLE'S PROTECTOR' HOSTILE TO HOSTEL

Victoria youth have been somewhat astounded by local reactionaries who advocated that they be nosewhipped out of Victoria's Centennial Square.

For refuge many youth turn to the more liberal appearing N.D.P. Hear how liberal the N.D.P. can be expected to be, if elected, from the words of Manitoba's N.D.P. transport minister -- "It's wrong to build youth hostels for middle class clowns who are too lazy to work, and it's disgraceful to see our parks littered with kids." (CP) Victoria Times 25th April, 1970). Proves once again, that though reformist capitalist parties make promises, once elected they run capitalism the way it has to be run -- for profit and not for people.

POVERTY

"Unless we make some real progress in attaining a better life for the poor, Canada will experience explosive violence."

Dr. J.F. Bentley, Dean of Agriculture, U. of Alberta

Since the Economic Council of Canada in its fifth annual review (Sept. 1968), the Canadian government has rediscovered poverty. This is because the poor are more vocal and the cost of poverty to the master class is large. A few of these costs can be listed as: (a) The cost of crime produced by poverty; (b) Cost of low productivity and lost output caused by disease and poor education; and (c) Cost of the controlling of the social tension and unrest associated with gross inequality. For example, the E.C.C. reported that "It has been estimated in the United States one poor man can cost the public purse as much as \$140,000 between the ages of 17 and 57." But poverty, being relative is hard to define. On one E.C.C. "yardstick" 6.6 million people are poor while another claim that a family (2 adults, 2 children) earning \$3,000. is below the poverty line or about 4.7 million people. However, the E.C.C. feels that: "The statement that at least one Canadian in every five suffers from poverty does not appear to be a wild exaggeration."

Those who are on the welfare line live in an atmosphere of poor health and bad housing. In Montreal, a family (2 adults, 2 children) receives a \$180. welfare cheque but the Montreal Diet Dispensary claims that such a family needs \$274. excluding that which is needed for dental and medical fees, medicine, insurance, and telephone. But a welfare family is not allowed to earn extra money above its welfare cheque. In Oct., 1969 a woman explained her problems to Federal Health Minister John Munro. She bluntly stated: "I am a shoplifter, I steal all my clothes and all my kid's clothes because I can't afford to buy them on welfare. I hope to God I don't get caught." (MacLeans Magazine Nov., 1969.) No wonder welfare people live with a sense of defeat, despair and alienation.

The E.C.C. used the word 'poor' to mean destitute but did come close to the Socialist view of 'poor' as meaning deprived, or restricted in access, when it declared: "The problem of poverty in developed industrial societies is increasingly viewed not as a sheer lack of essentials to sustain life, but as an insufficient access to certain goods, services, and conditions of life which are available to everyone else and have come to be accepted as basic to a decent, minimum standard of living. Poverty should not be measured against a "minimum standard of living" but against the capabilities of modern production. And Society is capable of providing an abundance of the good things of life. Human society must be rationally organized to accomplish this and it is called Socialism. Only under Socialism will poverty be eliminated from the world.

John Woolcock

Vancouver

A LITTLE RAY OF HUMAN SUNSHINE

London- When burglars invaded the home of Jennie Arnold, 98, she said she didn't mind a bit. She explained she rarely had visitors. As she lay in bed two men crept around the room stealing \$7.20. "I wasn't frightened a bit. Life gets boring...I didn't speak to the men...but one of them did smile." (Colonist, 3/21/70)

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA
1970 CONFERENCE MAY 16-17-18

The 1970 Conference of the SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA will be held May 16, 17 & 18 at 509 Nora Place. All interested members, Companion Party members and friends are most cordially welcome to attend all or any part of the Conference proceedings. The Schedule is:

Saturday, May 16

10:30 A.M. Election of Chair. Adoption of Agenda.

1:30 P.M. Discussion on Membership Application Form, & Speakers Qualification

3:30 P.M. Discussion on jurisdiction of inter-Party literature

8:00 P.M. Social at 539 Nora Place

Sunday, May 17

10:00 A.M. Possible adoption of FULCRUM as official Party journal & Possibility of surrendering joint ownership of W.S. to WSPUS

1:30 P.M. Official Party Letterhead. Method of electing GEC

3:00 P.M. Address at Beacon Hill Park Speakers Corner.

5:00 P.M. Discussion on how to conduct a business meeting

Monday, May 18

10:00 A.M. Good of the Movement.

REVOLUTION WITHOUT THEORY?

Socialists have often been chided about the smallness of the Socialist movement. It is claimed that Socialists are all theory and are not involved in the "right now" things. Our antagonists point with pride to their vigils and demonstrations. Some even admit that the demonstrations will do no good but claim that they make the young people involved. Others advocate so many "militant" demonstrations against the Viet Nam war that the military will be so involved with the "Inner War" that they will be compelled to bring the troops home to deal with them.

What are the fruits of such pursuits? The Viet Nam war rather than ceasing has spread to Cambodia. What about the number of troops required for the "Inner War"? On May 4 rifles cracked and 4 student anti war demonstrators lay dead. Of the eleven others wounded three are critical. Do the proponents of militant demonstration think that capitalism in protecting its interests will stop at killing 2,000, 4,000 or 4,000 demonstrators? In rememberable history the capitalist class of one country (Germany) showed their readiness to allow millions to be exterminated merely as scape-goats to divert the attention of the working class from the real cause of the crisis. Do the Youth agitators of today think the henchmen of today's capitalism, anywhere, are less inclined to so behave? Four dead students should be adequate warning. This however is not an appeal to surrender. To the contrary, Socialists have always advocated action -- however action based upon a clear understanding of the end intended. Students more than anyone should understand the need for theory. Their whole purpose for being in university is to learn theory -- theory which they hope is to be later applied to make profits for the capitalist class. Likewise in the matter of Social Revolution, can it be assumed that this can be accomplished without first learning Socialist theory or

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Revolution without Theory (continued)

without some unified idea about the result desired.

The Socialist Party of Canada has the theory. It is also only too willing to teach the theory to anyone who is interested enough to take the small effort to learn it. Once enough of us learn the theory of Social Revolution then comes the practical application of that theory. In its application Socialists will not blanch at anything the capitalist class had to throw at them, however if the theory and inconsequent practical application are learned it should be unnecessary to bathe in our own blood.

The weapon for successful revolution is available -- the ballot. Once a majority of us learn how to use it an end can be put to the system that uses wars in its business competition.

Larry Fisher

Victoria

CURRENT BRIEFS

POLLUTION

Pollution has been harming humans for many years, with no major effort being made to halt it or control it. In the March issue of "The Carpenter" an article is titled - "How Long Can You Hold Your Breath?" and continues - "Just One Breath of Fresh Air, Once So Much Taken For Granted, Is Fast Becoming A Luxury. Even the Wealthiest Can't Afford It."

And that is a clue as to why all the commotion at this late date about pollution. It is now threatening the existence of the chief beneficiaries of society themselves, personally and by way of their property. It includes the section of that class whose industries pollute and the section whose operations are innocent.

Since the useful section of society, the workers, not only produce the goods of the present world, die in its wars, and run the system from top to bottom it is not surprising that they are doing the crusading in this latest great cause to save capitalism. Cleaning up the system's fecal choked doorstep, and out-house.

OLD PALS

Then there are the leftists, whose chief difference from the rightists is their name, and their speed in going nowhere.

In keeping with all their buddy buddy escapades of the past is the recent series on pollution being published by the veddy, veddy conservative Daily Colonist from RAMPARTS. "We are all in this together you know."

HYPOCRISY

The other local daily bemoans "the explosions of sick minds", - the bomb planting of new leftists and old rightists. Political hypocrisy, conscious and unconscious,

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SHORT BRIEFS

Hypocrisy (Continued)

prevails. These people support the system, then cry about the system's massi defects. As if 10 per cent of society could live off the involuntary labor of other 90 per cent, for one thing, without violence.

NEWSPAPER HEADING-

"CANADIANS SHOULD TELL NIXON TO STOP PLAYING WAR GAMES"

Being a small nation near a big one, and as the nature of world capitalism is competitive and technological, another suggestion seems to be just as relevant CANADIANS SHOULD TELL NIXON TO STOP THE EARTH FROM ROTATING ON ITS AXIS.

"CREDIT FILES ARE DANGEROUS"

says a press heading - too much invasion of privacy. The biggest invasion of privacy that credit files would have revealed a generation or two ago was that the practitioners were too poor to pay cash. But then poverty has always been respectable and hidden by the use of respectable names. In the old days it wasn't a sin to be poor, because "everybody was." In those days the destitute were called "bums" or "deadbeats." Now they are called the "poor" and of course are only a minority, and the majority have dropped the "poor" label and carry a wallet full of credit cards instead. Which is quite acceptable, respectable and as politically mind deadening as ever. Words have shifted, meanings have changed, and the old problem of poverty remains.

IT'S FOR YOUR OWN GOOD

"Sealand of the Pacific has been closed to the public for 3 weeks to a month as a protective step for the two new killer whales, Sealand president Bob White said..." (Daily Colonist, March 27/70). "With the Easter holidays coming up a lot of people might be disappointed," he said. "But we're shutting down in the best interest of the whales." (The whales are in captivity, but the pen is too small for the psychological survival of the albino whale, and is being enlarged).

And so it goes. Poultry farmers feed their chickens for the good of the chickens; Capitalists invest capital to provide the workers with jobs; national business groups wage war against their competitors for the freedom of the workers who do the dying; and welfare is for the unfortunate victims, of "our" society etc., ad nauseum.

EVOLUTION OF WORDS

REAL WELFARE

In many primitive tribes, hospitality was, and still is extended to travelling strangers who need food and rest. The stranger's welfare was catered to on a basis of equality to his host. In other words the social maxim of the tribal system was extended to outsiders. Often the traveller was never queried as to his destination, etc. until he had a full meal under his belt. He was sometimes offered the head man's wife or daughter for the night. All his needs were in context with the social mores. Not "humanity first" but humanity only.

If these democratic standards of welfare were met in today's so-called democracy, the big-rich providers of state-welfare would have to do so to the extent of providing fallen workers with the goodies that the rich enjoy themselves, like country homes, swimming pools, cadillacs; in short with anything they wanted. But alas, "welfare" really isn't welfare. The state dole exists for the

CURRENT BRIEFS

Real Welfare (continued)

overall purpose of keeping workers in poverty by keeping them tied to the factory wheels, to get them on their feet to the extent that they can work again. Some child workers, during the industrial revolution in England, and the days of absolute surplus value, were tied to the machines with real chains. In today's enlightened world, workers are tied to the machines with "invisible" chains, mental chains. And "welfare" is part of the deception.

One worker did take the word seriously though. He deceived the state administrators of three national sections of the world capitalist class, France, Spain and Algeria. He collected welfare on 3,000 fictitious children. He had the nerve to place himself on the same social par as those who pretend to extend their hospitality. When the representatives of the organized parasites tracked him down, his much smaller family was living in "sumptuous style near Barcelona, with five cars and an elegant villa ...". (Victoria Daily Times March 7/70).

BRITISH COLUMBIA LABOUR SCENE

Construction Industry:

New Contractors bargaining body, Construction Labor Relations Association showing its muscle. Attempting to get building trades under one master contract. Has locked out most of building trades and even brought independants to a standstill by persuading cement supply firms, who are not even involved in negotiations to shut down. Government co-operating with building capitalists' efforts to starve workers into submission by keeping workers, who would otherwise be entitled, off welfare.

Forest Industry--

Tough negotiations expected when contract terminates in June but many sawmills already closed down because of dispute in Tugboat industry.

Looks like a long hot summer for much of the working class in B.C. Ironically in most cases it is the Capitalists who are on strike.

The workers are having it tough but they are getting one benefit out of it-- an education. The turn of events is teaching them that the law and the government are tools of the capitalist class. More and more workers are becoming aware that their unions can at best only help them to tread water in the present society and if they really want to solve their problems they will have to find another vehicle. In an otherwise unhappy situation Socialists can draw comfort from the knowledge that for this summer, at least, supporters of capitalism will not be using the ridiculous argument that the class struggle is over.

HELP THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT and YOURSELF
SUBSCRIBE to SOCIALIST JOURNALS NOW

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<u>WESTERN SOCIALIST:</u>	Socialist Party of Canada and World		
	Socialist Party of the United States	15 issues.	\$2.00
<u>FULCRUM:</u>	Victoria Local, Socialist Party of Canada	8 issues.	\$1.00
ORDER from Socialist Party of Canada, P.O. Box 237, Victoria, B. C.			

SOCIALIST PARTY of Canada

OBJECT:

The establishment of a system of society based upon the common ownership and democratic control of the means and instruments for producing and distributing wealth by and in the interest of society as a whole.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

The Companion Parties of Socialism hold:

1. — That society as at present constituted is based upon the ownership of the means of living (i.e., land, factories, railways, etc.) by the capitalist or master class, and the consequent enslavement of the working class, by whose labor alone wealth is produced.
2. — That in society, therefore, there is an antagonism of interests, manifesting itself as a class struggle between those who possess but do not produce, and those who produce but do not possess.
3. — That this antagonism can be abolished only by the emancipation of the working class from the domination of the master class, by the conversion into the common property of society of the means of production and distribution, and their democratic control by the whole people.
4. — That as in the order of social evolution the working class is the last class to achieve its freedom, the emancipation of the working class will involve the emancipation of all mankind, without distinction of race or sex.
5. — That this emancipation must be the work of the working class itself.
6. — That as the machinery of government, including the armed forces of the nation, exists only to conserve the monopoly by the capitalist class of the wealth taken from the workers, the working class must organize consciously and politically for the conquest of the powers of government, in order that this machinery, including these forces may be converted from an instrument of oppression into the agent of emancipation and overthrow of plutocratic privilege.
7. — That as political parties are but the expression of class interests, and as the interest of the working class is diametrically opposed to the interest of all sections of the master class, the party seeking working class emancipation must be hostile to every other party.
8. — THE COMPANION PARTIES OF SOCIALISM, therefore, enter the field of political action determined to wage war against all other political parties, whether alleged labor or avowedly capitalist, and call upon all members of the working class of these countries to support these principles to the end that a termination may be brought to the system which deprives them of the fruits of their labor, and that poverty may give place to comfort, privilege to equality, and slavery to freedom.

These 7 parties adhere to the same SOCIALIST PRINCIPLES:

LEAGUE OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS — Wien XII, Wienerbergstr. 16, Austria.
SOCIALIST PARTY OF AUSTRALIA — P. O. Box 1440, Melbourne, Australia;
Sydney, Australia, Box 2291, GPO.
SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA — P. O. Box 237, Victoria, B. C.
SOCIALIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN — 52 Clapham High St., London SW. 4.
SOCIALIST PARTY OF NEW ZEALAND — P. O. Box 62, Petone, New Zealand;
P. O. Box 1929, Auckland, New Zealand.
WORLD SOCIALIST PARTY OF IRELAND—53 High St., Rm. 5, Belfast 1, N. Ireland
WORLD SOCIALIST PARTY OF U. S.—295 Huntington Ave., Boston, Mass. 02115.

Those interested in the Object & Principles of the Companion Parties of Socialism can obtain further information from the above addresses. or P.O. Box 237, Victoria, B.C., Canada